

## **Local Road Congestion Eases in Santa Clara County, Inches Up in San Francisco**

- Alameda, San Francisco and Santa Clara counties gathered fresh local roadway congestion data in 2004, and the results paint a mixed picture of evening peak-period traffic conditions in the region's three most heavily urbanized counties.
- Santa Clara County saw the biggest changes in traffic conditions, with a 9 percentage point increase in uncongested intersections and a halving of the level of severe congestion — down from 6 percent in 2002 to 3 percent in 2004. Moderately congested roads declined to 48 percent, from 54 percent. Still, Santa Clara remains the only Bay Area county with a majority (51 percent) of its local roadways classified as either moderately or severely congested.
- San Francisco's traffic worsened slightly, with a 4 percentage point decrease in uncongested roads and a combined 4 percentage point increase in moderate and severe congestion.
- Alameda County experienced only minor variations in traffic conditions between 2002 and 2004.
- Four counties — Contra Costa, Marin, San Mateo and Solano — did not report new roadway congestion figures for 2004. These counties typically collect data in odd-numbered years. In Contra Costa, previously unreleased data for 2003 show a slight improvement in traffic conditions compared to 2000 levels. The proportion of uncongested roads improved by 2 percentage points, with 1 percentage point decreases in the moderate and severely congested categories.

Local Roadway Congestion by County<sup>1</sup> During the P.M. Peak Commute Period

Uncongested Moderately Congested Severely Congested

COUNTIES WITH UPDATED DATA FOR 2004

Alameda

2004 (188 miles)	70%	27%	3%
2002 (193 miles)	69%	29%	2%

San Francisco

2004 (203 miles)	65%	30%	5%
2001 (203 miles)	69%	27%	4%

Santa Clara

2004 (249 intersections)	49%	48%	3%
2002 (245 intersections)	40%	54%	6%

COUNTIES WITH DATA FROM PRIOR YEARS<sup>2</sup>

Contra Costa

2003 (65 intersections)	78%	17%	5%
2000 (55 intersections)	76%	18%	6%

Marin

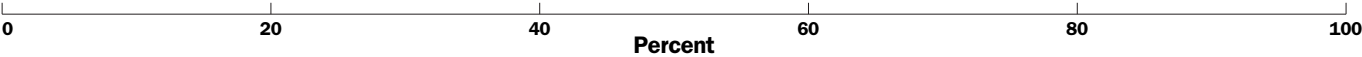
2003 (15 miles)	80%	7%	13%
2001 (15 miles)	61%	29%	10%

San Mateo

2003 (160 miles)	80%	17%	3%
2001 (160 miles)	63%	32%	5%

Solano

2003 (91 miles)	70%	23%	7%
2001 (95 miles)	84%	9%	7%



Source: County congestion monitoring reports

<sup>1</sup> Selected road segments and/or intersections; Napa and Sonoma counties do not monitor local roadway congestion.

<sup>2</sup> Current (2004) data is not available for Contra Costa, Marin, San Mateo and Solano counties.